

Geyserville Planning Committee Monthly Meeting

Minutes of October 11, 2021 Meeting

The meeting of the Geyserville Planning Committee was called to order at the Geyserville Firehouse at 5:05 p.m. by Daisy Damskey, President.

Members Present: Daisy Damskey, President, John Cash, Secretary, Walter Kieser, Steven Sachs.

1. Greeting and President's Update: President Damskey reported that Vice President Connors would not be attending but that with four members present, the Committee had a quorum.
2. Review and Approval of September 28, 2021, GPC Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2021, meeting was made by Walter Kieser. Daisy Damskey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. Comments from the public/community: There were no comments.
4. GPC related correspondence: There was no correspondence
5. Open Discussion: Regarding the development of action plan for the Geyserville Planning Committee: The remainder of the meeting was devoted to an open discussion of the development of an action plan for the Geyserville Planning Committee going forward in light of recent member resignations. The following were highlights of the discussion:
 - a. John Cash suggested that we should aim for a revision of the GPC bylaws to be discussed and adopted at the April town meeting. He suggested that with new bylaws, the membership of the GPC should be reconstituted using a formula similar to that laid out in the original bylaws when the GPC was first formed. All positions would be open for election.
 - b. Daisy Damskey suggested that the GPC hold an interim town meeting to elect those members who had been appointed on an interim basis. She said that under the bylaws only 20 people from the community need to attend to have a legitimate town meeting.
 - c. Walter Kieser and Steve Sachs felt that this would not work and that the Committee should aim to build greater representation from the community. John Cash pointed out that the bylaws give authority to make changes in organization and membership exclusively to the Town, which is the formal association of which the GPC is its representative. This would include any changes to term limits.
 - d. Walter Kieser said he would like to us to look at a set of key strategic issues:
 - i. What is the mission of the Geyserville Planning Committee?
 - ii. What is the representation on the Committee and how do we create true community-wide participation? He stressed the critical importance of engaging and energizing the Latinx community.
 - iii. What is the ongoing relationship of the GPC to the GAV/MAC?

- e. Daisy Damskey pointed out that the original goal in creating the Association was to provide the Town with a structure and she said the GPC was conceived as being a proactive organization.
- f. John Cash suggested an addition to Walter's strategic issues namely what is the relationship of the GPC to the County.
- g. Steve Sachs suggested that the Committee redraft the bylaws for the Town meeting in April and then go to the County for a new memorandum of understanding.
- h. Walter Kieser expressed further concern about engaging with the larger community, including the Latinx community and questioned how we would engender effective means of communication.
- i. Steve Sachs expressed the view that the public will want to focus on policy issues and suggested that future meetings be organized around topic areas that will provide structure for discussion.
- j. John Cash said that the Committee needs to get an approved mission statement and the authority to act on behalf of the Town. This is not the case currently. The mission statement needs to lay out a clear set of responsibilities and delineate how the GPC interacts with the GAV/MAC.
- k. Walter Kieser pointed out that the approach of Sonoma County is unclear. The GAV/MAC is supposed to sunset but when and how this will happen has never been determined.
- l. Steve Sachs suggested that we put together an operating framework leading up to the Town meeting and then put together facilitated meetings around topics focused on what the Town would like the GPC to do.
- m. Walter Kieser said we needed to reach out to the County and other elected officials as well as local organizations to get them to participate in this process. This has to include Hispanic outreach. We need to engage the building blocks of the community.
- n. John Cash suggested that the first step should be to redraft the bylaws as a strategy for engagement and then to put together the topical meetings proposed by Steve Sachs as a follow-up.
- o. Walter Kieser pointed out that the County is obligated to fund the GPC if we are functioning as a public agency.
- p. John Cash agreed to prepare a revised draft of the bylaws in mid-November for initial discussion, review, and amendment by the Committee.
- q. Steve Sachs asked that we put something on the website that describes the plan agreed upon at this meeting.

Next meeting of the GPC: President Damskey announced that the next meeting of the GPC will occur on November 16 and that a representative from PRMD would be present to discuss vacation rentals and fractional ownership. She said she is working with Marta Cruz, Mayor of Cloverdale in our outreach efforts to the Latino community and will produce flyers in Spanish as well as English for the November 16 meeting"

- 6. Adjourn: John Cash moved that the meeting be adjourned and Walter Kieser seconded the motion. The meeting of the Geyserville Planning Committee was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.